Amendments To Claims

1.   (Currently Amended) A system for communication,
comprising:

    first set of sensing and rendering components arranged to
cover physical movements of multiple individuals present in a
first environment;

    second set of sensing and rendering components arranged
to cover physical movements of multiple individuals present in
a second environment;

    interest thread detector that uses the first and second
set of sensing and rendering components to detect multiple
communication interactions each involving a respective subset
of the individuals present in the first and second
environments and that maintains an interest thread for each
communication interaction;

    communication provider that captures a set of media data
from the sensing components and that combines the captured
media data in response to the respective activities indicated
by physical movements of each subset of the individuals and
that communicates the combined media data to the rendering
components, wherein the communication provider includes a user
manager configured to maintain a set of user profiles for the
respective individuals, the user profiles including permission
profiles.

2.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the
communication provider selects a respective subset of the
first and second set of sensing and rendering components for
use for each interest thread.

3.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the
respective activities include speech levels of the individuals
involved in the respective interest thread.

- 4 -

4.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the
respective activities include gestures by the individuals
involved in the respective interest thread.

5.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the
respective activities include movements by the individuals
involved in the respective interest thread.

6.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the
respective activities include locations of the individuals
involved in the respective interest thread.

7.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the
communication provider refines the media data obtained from
the sensor components in response to the respective
activities.

8.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the
communication provider stores the combined media data to
provide a history of each communication interaction.

9.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the
communication interactions include a communication interaction
that pertains to an artifact in one of the environments.

10.   (Original) The system of claim 9, wherein the artifact
changes over time.

11.   (Original) The system of claim 9, wherein the artifact is
a shared virtual writing surface.

12.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 10, wherein a
change to the artifact is made by one of the individuals
involved in the interest threads.

- 5 -

13. (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein the
communication provider records a history of the artifact over
time.

14. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the
interest thread detector detects one or more activities in the
environments and creates an interest area for the detected
activity.

15. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 14, wherein
the interest thread detector associates the interest area with
another interest thread.

16. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the
communication interactions include a communication interaction
that involves two or more of the individuals in one of the
environments.

17. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the
communication interactions include a communication interaction
that involves one or more of the individuals in two of the
environments.

18. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the
interest thread detector detects formation by detecting a
movement of one of the individuals.

19. (Original) The system of claim 18, wherein the movement
pertains to one of the rendering devices.

20. (Original) The system of claim 18, wherein the movement
pertains to one of the other individuals.

21. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein one
or more of the individuals is in a remote location and in

- 6 -

possession of a remote sensing and rendering component.

22.   (Currently Amended) A method for communication, comprising:

    providing a first set of sensing and rendering components for covering physical movements of multiple individuals present in a first environment;

    providing a second set of sensing and rendering components for covering physical movements of multiple individuals present in a second environment;

    detecting multiple communication interactions each a communication interaction involving a respective subset of the individuals present in the first and second environments;

    maintaining an interest thread for the each detected communication interaction;

    maintaining a set of user profiles for each of the individuals;

    capturing a set of media data from the sensing components;

    combining the captured media data in response to the respective activities indicated by physical movements of the respective subset of the individuals;

    communicating the combined media data to the rendering components, including communicating the user profile for each of the individuals, each user profile including a permission profile.

23.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, further comprising selecting a respective subset of the sensing and rendering components for use for each interest thread.

24.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, wherein combining the captured media data includes detecting speech levels of the corresponding individuals.

- 7 -

25.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, wherein combining the captured media data includes detecting gestures by the corresponding individuals.

26.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, wherein combining the captured media data includes detecting movements by the corresponding individuals.

27.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, wherein combining the captured media data includes detecting locations of the corresponding individuals.

28.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, further comprising refining the media data obtained from the sensor components in response to the respective activities.

29.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, further comprising storing the combined media data in a history of each communication interaction.

30.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, further comprising monitoring an artifact over time.

31.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30, further comprising recording a history of the artifact over time.

32.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, further comprising detecting one or more activities in the environments and creating an interest area for each detected activity.

33.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32, further comprising associating the interest area with another interest thread.

- 8 -

34. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage media
that contains a set of code that when executed provides
communication by:

     providing a first set of sensing and rendering components
for covering physical movements of multiple individuals
present in a first environment;

     providing a second set of sensing and rendering
components for covering physical movements of multiple
individuals present in a second environment;

     detecting multiple communication interactions each
involving a respective subset of the individuals present in
the first and second environments;

     maintaining an interest thread for each detected
communication interaction;

     maintaining a set of user profiles for each of the
individuals;

     capturing a set of media data from the sensing
components;

     combining the captured media data in response to the
respective activities indicated by physical movements of the
respective subset of the individuals;

     communicating the combined media data to the rendering
components, including communicating a user profile for each of
the individuals, each user profile including a permission
profile.

35. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage
media of claim 34, further comprising selecting a respective
subset of the sensing and rendering components for use for
each interest thread.

36. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage
media of claim 34, wherein combining the captured media data
includes detecting speech levels of the corresponding
individuals.

- 9 -

37. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage media of claim 34, wherein combining the captured media data includes detecting gestures by the corresponding individuals.

38. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage media of claim 34, wherein combining the captured media data includes detecting movements by the corresponding individuals.

39. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage media of claim 34, wherein combining the captured media data includes detecting locations of the corresponding individuals.

40. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage media of claim 34, further comprising refining the media data obtained from the sensor components in response to the respective activities.

41. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage media of claim 34, further comprising storing the combined media data in a history of each communication interaction.

42. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage media of claim 34, further comprising monitoring an artifact over time.

43. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage media of claim 42, further comprising recording a history of the artifact over time.

44. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage media of claim 34, further comprising detecting one or more activities in the environments and creating an interest area for each detected activity.

- 10 -

45.   (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage
media of claim 44, further comprising associating the interest
area with another interest thread.

- 11 -